

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1157

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 4662



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

## AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AGENCIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 1-217 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1,
- 3 2023):
- 4 (a) No public agency may disclose, under the Freedom of Information
- 5 Act, from its personnel, medical or similar files, the residential address
- 6 of any of the following persons employed by such public agency:
- 7 (1) A federal court judge, federal court magistrate, judge of the
- 8 Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme Court of the state, or
- 9 family support magistrate;
- 10 (2) A sworn member of a municipal police department, a sworn
- 11 member of the Division of State Police within the Department of
- 12 Emergency Services and Public Protection or a sworn law enforcement

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- officer within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection;
- 14 (3) An employee of the Department of Correction;
- 15 (4) An attorney-at-law who represents or has represented the state in
- 16 a criminal prosecution;
- 17 (5) An attorney-at-law who is or has been employed by the Division
- of Public Defender Services or a social worker who is employed by the
- 19 Division of Public Defender Services;
- 20 (6) An inspector employed by the Division of Criminal Justice;
- 21 (7) A firefighter;
- 22 (8) An employee of the Department of Children and Families;
- 23 (9) A member or employee of the Board of Pardons and Paroles;
- 24 (10) An employee of the judicial branch;
- 25 (11) An employee of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
- 26 Services who provides direct care to patients;
- 27 (12) A member or employee of the Commission on Human Rights
- 28 and Opportunities; [or]
- 29 (13) A state marshal appointed by the State Marshal Commission
- 30 pursuant to section 6-38b;
- 31 (14) A judicial marshal employed by the judicial branch;
- 32 (15) An employee of the disability determination services unit within
- 33 <u>the Department of Aging and Disability Services;</u>
- 34 (16) An employee of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services within the
- 35 Department of Aging and Disability Services; and
- 36 (17) An employee of the Office of the Attorney General.

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Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 1-214 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):

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- (b) (1) Whenever a public agency receives a request to inspect or copy records contained in any of its employees' personnel or medical files and similar files, and the agency reasonably believes that the disclosure of such records would legally constitute an invasion of privacy, the agency shall immediately notify in writing (A) each employee concerned, provided such notice shall not be required to be in writing where impractical due to the large number of employees concerned, and (B) the collective bargaining representative, if any, of each employee concerned.
- (2) Whenever a public agency receives a request to inspect or copy records contained in any of its employees' personnel or medical files and similar files, and the agency reasonably believes that the disclosure of such records would not legally constitute an invasion of privacy, either (A) the agency shall first disclose the requested records to the person making the request to inspect or copy such records and subsequently, within a reasonable time after such disclosure, make a reasonable attempt to send a written or an electronic copy of the request to inspect or copy such records, if applicable, or a brief description of such request, each employee concerned and the collective bargaining representative, if any, of each employee concerned, or (B) in the case of a mass request, prior to disclosing such records to the person making such request, the agency shall make a reasonable attempt to send a written or electronic copy of the request to inspect or copy such records, or a brief description of such request, to each employee concerned and the collective bargaining representative, if any, of each employee concerned. For purposes of this subdivision, "mass request" means a request concerning fifty or more employees.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall require an agency to withhold from disclosure the contents of personnel or medical files and similar files when it does not reasonably believe that such disclosure would legally

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## 70 constitute an invasion of personal privacy.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	1-217(a)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	1-214(b)

## Statement of Purpose:

To expand the list of public agency employees whose residential addresses are exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act and require employee notification of mass requests prior to disclosure under said act.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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